

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SAN JO 04646 082344Z

61/63

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 CIAE-00

INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00

SCA-01 JUSE-00 SEC-01 SSO-00 /039 W

----- 126116

O 082148Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8773

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 04646

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR GARBLED PORTIONS THROUGHOUT TEXT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, CS

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT ODUBER WILL NOT EXPEL VESCO

1. IN A LONG LETTER TO THE PRO-DECENCY GROUP, PUBLISHED IN BOTH MORNING PAPERS DECEMBER 8, PRESIDENT ODUBER REHEARSED HIS ARGUMENTS FOR NOT MOVING, IN RESPONSE TO WIDESPREAD CIVIC DEMAND, TO EXPEL ROBERT VESCO FROM COSTA RICA. THE ARGUMENTS IN THE LETTER UNDOUBTEDLY WILL BE USED BY THE PRESIDENT IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE NATION, PROBABLY EARLY THIS WEEK, ON THE VESCO ISSUE.

2. ODUBER SAID IN HIS LETTER, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, THAT AS VESCO HAD VIOLATED NO LAWS HE SHOULD NOT BE EXPELLED. HE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT IF ANYONE COULD SHOW HIM A FIRM JUDICIAL SENTENCE FROM A COMPETENT COURT OF A COUNTRY WITH A JURIDICAL TRADITION FREE OF SUSPICION... "I WILL PERSONALLY TAKE (VESCO) TO OUR COURTS...".

3. THE LETTER REFERRED TO ODUBER'S CONTACTS WITH USG OFFICIALS IN MIAMI LAST MARCH OR APRIL ON THE VESCO CASE. ODUBER SAID IN THE LETTER THAT HE REGARDED THE MEETING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAN JO 04646 082344Z

AS USEFUL AND THAT HE HAD ALSO ASKED THEM AND SUBSEQUENTLY

THE U.S. CHARGE WHOM HE INFORMED OF THE MEETING TO AVOID  
"PRESSURING DEPUTIES AND OFFICIALS BECAUSE I WILL  
BE OBLIGED TO EXPEL ANYONE WHO MIGHT DISRESPECT OUR INSTITUTIONS".

4. PRESIDENT ODUBER WROTE THAT THE ISSUE IS NOT  
VESCO, BUT WHO HAS THE AUTHORITY TO GOVERN THE COUNTRY. HE  
CLAIMED THAT THIS IS JUST ONE MORE SCANDLE TO DISTRACT PUBLIC  
ATTENTION AND THAT THE MEDIA HAS SPEARHEADED THE CAMPAIGN IN  
PART OUT OF FEAR OF THE NEW NEWSPAPER "EXCELISIOR" WHICH HE  
NOTES HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF BEING VESCO FINANCED.

5. PRESIDENT ODUBER ALSO WARNED IN THE LETTER THAT  
THE ANTI-VESCO MOVEMENT MAY BE TAKEN OVER IN THE NEXT  
FEW DAYS BY EXTREMISTS GROUPS WHICH SEEK TO DESTROY THE  
GOVERNMENT BY FORCING THE GUARDIA CIVIL INTO ACTION WITH  
"GAS AND BULLETS".

6. IN ANOTHER REFERENCE TO THE U.S., PRESIDENT  
ODUBER REPORTEDLY WROTE THAT THE "PASSION OF GROUPS  
WHICH ARE ENEMIES OF VESCO IN THE U.S. HAS REACHED  
UNACCEPTABLE LIMITS."  
HE WENT ON TO DISCUSS THE "14 OCTOBER 1974...WASHINGTON  
POST" ARTICLE WHICH CAST DOUBT UPON THE IMPARTIALITY OF  
THE COSTA RICAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM AND BLAMED IT IN PART  
FOR THE FAILURE OF THE U.S. EXTRADITION ATTEMPT.  
AS EVIDENCE OF THE VALIDITY OF THE COURTS BEHAVIOR  
THE PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY ATTACHED A GOCR LEGAL  
STUDY OF THE COURT'S VERDICT AND PROCEEDINGS IN THE  
1973 VESCO EXTRADITION CASE.

7. COMMENT ON THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER WILL BE  
CABLED DECEMBER 9.  
LANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPULSION, PRESIDENT, PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SANJO04646  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740356-0411  
**From:** SAN JOSE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741251/aaaabrvp.tel  
**Line Count:** 94  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION L  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** izenbei0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 SEP 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <13 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENT ODUBER WILL NOT EXPEL VESCO  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PFOR, CS, US, (VESCO, ROBERT), (ODUBER)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005